



<b>Information for Release</b>		<b>6/25/15</b>
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**Date of the notification to DCS: 12/8/13**

**Near Fatality**

**Date of fatality or near fatality: 12/8/13**

**Child's name: Aiden**

**Age at time of incident: 6 months**

**Alleged perpetrator(s) name and age:**

Mario Rodriguez – age 40

Veronica Rodriguez – age 40

**City, town or general location of residence of the child and alleged perpetrator(s):**

Tucson, AZ

**Circumstances of the fatality or near fatality that indicate it was the result of abuse or neglect:**

On December 8, 2013, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding 6-month-old Aiden who was brought to the hospital after being found unresponsive in the foster home where he was being cared for. Aiden was found to have bleeding in his brain and retinal hemorrhaging that was suspected to be non-accidental. The investigation found that the injuries occurred while the baby was in the foster parents care. Following a review by the Arizona Office of Administrative Hearings, the allegations of neglect by the foster parents, Mario and Veronica Rodriguez, were substantiated on June 8, 2015.

**Whether DCS has received any reports or past cases, of child abuse, abandonment or neglect involving the child and the current alleged abusive or neglectful parent, guardian or custodian\*:**

DCS has received no prior reports or cases of abuse, abandonment or neglect involving Aiden and/or Mario and Veronica Rodriguez.

**1. Actions taken by DCS in response to the fatality or near fatality of the child including:**

The Department of Child Safety, in conjunction with the Office of Child Welfare Investigations, conducted a joint investigation with the Tucson Police Department.

**2. Actions taken regarding the child and/or other children in the home:**

Following an assessment of child safety, the other child in the home was removed and placed in foster care.

**3. Whether the agency is or intends to provide direct services or service referrals to the family:**

Services were provided by the Department.

\*Posted information provides whether there have been reports, or any current or past cases, of child abuse, abandonment or neglect involving the child who has died or suffered a near fatality and the current alleged abusive or neglectful parent, guardian or custodian pursuant to A.R.S. § 8-807(F)(2)(a)(iv).



## *Arizona Department of Child Safety*

**Douglas A. Ducey**  
Governor

**Gregory McKay**  
Director

\*Posted information may be updated as new information becomes available.

Information, if any, regarding the child and other family or household members, not specifically related to the fatality or near fatality, is not posted on the website. This also applies to information, if any, regarding the alleged perpetrator(s) and other family or household members.